

## **HEDGES USED IN THE BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY SECTIONS OF ENGLISH DEPARTMENT THESES: A CASE STUDY AT DIAN NUSWANTORO UNIVERSITY**

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### **ABSTRAK**

The thesis is entitled Hedges Used in the English Department Theses of Dian Nuswantoro University. It has two objectives. First, it aims at classifying the types of hedges used in English Department Theses of Dian Nuswantoro University. Second, it aims at describing the functions of hedges used in English Department theses of Dian Nuswantoro University.

The method used in collecting the data was the documentation one. The data were taken from introduction sections of English students theses in Dian Nuswantoro University in academic years of 2010 to 2012. The steps to analyze the data are reading the data, identifying the types of hedges, calculating the relative frequency of each type of hedges to know which one of those types was mostly used in the thesis, classifying the types of hedges, and describing the function of hedges.

The result shows that the types of hedges mostly used in those theses are modal auxiliary verbs as many as 108 times (77,69%) that consist of modalities may, might, could, will, would, should and must. The other types of hedges belong to modal lexical verbs used as many as 4 times (2,87%), adjectival, adverbial, and nominal modal phrase used as many as 3 times (2,15%), approximators of degree, quantity, frequency, and time used as many as 19 times (13,66%), if clause used as many as 2 times (1,43%), and compound hedges used as many as 3 times (2,15%). The functions of hedges found in the introductions of the thesis are function towards proposition and function towards the writer.

Kata Kunci : functions of hedges, hedges, thesis, types of hedges

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**Keyword** : functions of hedges, hedges, thesis, types of hedges